to last three years outstanding advances of all scheduled commercial banks for these two categories is indicated below:—

(Amount in lakhs)
(Amount Rs. crores)

As on last Friday of	Small Scale Industries		Artisans Cottage & Village Industries	
	A/cs.	Amount	A/cs.	Amount
December, 1982	10.5	4464 32	4 4	109.85
December, 1983	12.4	5389.37	6.4	167.23
December, 1984	14 5	6537 18	8 4	241.05

Aluminium pipe Manufacturing Method

@3004. SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there are many aluminium pipe manufacturers for use in sprinkler irrigation systems by extrusion method, whereas there is only one aluminium tube manufacturer by welding (ERW) method;

(b) whether it is also a fact that quality of extruded tube, being seamless, is superior to welded aluminium pipe for purposes of sprinkler irrigation, since Indian Standards institution has framed two specifications; and

(c) if answer to parts (a) and (b) above be in the affirmative, why the Central Government is not issuing licences for manufacture of aluminium pipes by welding method which is much cheaper than extrusion method to eliminate monopoly and encourage healthy competition?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF MINES (SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Recently Government have liberalised the licensing policy in respect of aluminium extrusions, rolled products powders and alloys in the secondary sector. A letter of intent has been given to one more unit on 22-11-1985 for manufacture of ERW aluminium pipes.

Packaging Industry

@@3004. D. SHRI DHULESH WAR MEENA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a nodal agency for the development of packaging industry is likely to be set up soon;

(b) if so, what are the broad outlines of the project; and

(c) the steps being taken to see that the packaging industry grows upto the international standards?

@Previously Unstarred Question 2685, transferred from the 16th December, 1985.

@@Previosuly Unstarrde Question 2686, transferred from the 16th December, 1985.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN): (a) and (b) There is no firm and precise proposal under consideration in this regard.

(c) In addition to the Indian Institute of Packaging providing technical advice and expertise for development and testing of packages particularly for export, training personnel in the packaging industry disseminating information through publications, seminars and exhibitions import of suitable technologies and equipment is also facilitated.

Board to deal with rehabilitation of sick industrial companies

@3004. E. SHRI KALPNATH RAI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to set up a Board to deal with rehabilitation of sick industrial companies; and

(b) if so, by when such a Board is likely to be set up and details of its constitution?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) 'The Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Bill, 1985' which envisages, *inter-alia,* the setting up of Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction has been passed by the Lok Sabha on 9-12-1985 and by the Rajya Sabha on 16-12-1985. As envisaged in the Bill the Board shall consist of a Chairman and not less than two and not more than fourteen other Members, to be appointed by the Central Government.

@Previously Unstarred Question 2732, transferred from the 16th December, 1985.

Area of operation of Public Sector Units

@@3004. F. SHRI N. E. BALRAM: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in one of the series of meetings with the Finance Minister in September, 1985 several trade union leaders suggested to him that the area of operation of public sector units should be expanded to cover items of mass consumption;

(b) whether it is also a fact that trade union representatives felt that employment potential and generation of greater productivity in the public sector could be achieved only through labour participation in the process of decision-making and its implementation; and

(c) if so, what is the reaction of the Government on the above points/suggestions and action being taken to introduce participation of workers in the process of decision-making and its implementation as a 'compulsory' one by way of some 'Enactment' in the near future, if any?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI): (a) to (c) A meeting with some trade union leaders was held in order to get their views on the formulation of long term fiscal policy on 19th September, 1985. During the discussions several suggestions were made by the trade union leaders on various aspects of the economy, including the operations of public sector units and workers' participation in decision-making.

Public sector is already engaged in the production of several mass consumption items e.g. textiles, watches, drugs, vanaspati, edible oils etc. The matter relating to "Workers' participation in management and the ques-

@@Previously Unstarred Question 2750, transferred from the 16th December, 1985.